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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY [AU/AU]; Acton, ACT 2601 (AU).			
(72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COX, Graeme [AU/AU]; 66 Bundle Hill Road, Bawley Point, NSW 2539 (AU). EWART, Gary [AU/AU]; 189 Phillip Avenue, Hackett, ACT 2602 (AU). GAGE, Peter [AU/AU]; 130 Powell Drive, Queanbeyan, NSW 2620 (AU).			
(74) Agents: SLATTERY, John, M. et al.; Davies Collison Cave, 1 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).			
(54) Title: A METHOD OF MODULATING ION CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL ACTIVITY			
(57) Abstract			
<p>The present invention relates generally to a method of retarding, reducing or otherwise inhibiting viral functional activity and, more particularly, to a method of reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting viral functional activity by down-regulating Vpu ion channel functional activity. Even more particularly, the present invention provides a method of treating HIV infection or AIDS by inhibiting Vpu ion channel mediated HIV replication.</p>			